

MAILS
From San Francisco:
Patria, Mar. 15
For San Francisco:
Gr. Northern, Mar. 16
From Vancouver:
Makura, March 21.
For Vancouver:
Niagara, Mar. 20.

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2:30
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AMERICAN STEAMER SUNK BY U-BOAT

Algonquin Fired on Unwarned Then Blown Up; Crew Get Time For Boats

VICE ABATEMENT BILL, AMENDED, NOW MEETS FAVOR

New Proposal is to Restrict Section in Which Complaints Against Houses Are Made

Members of the select committee of Oahu senators, named by the committee of the whole to report on senate bill 10, the "abatement by injunction" measure, are proposing a compromise amendment, it was learned today.

Under the new plan the vice abatement bill will be reported to the senate favorably, with an important amendment. The amendment is to provide that complaints from individuals against alleged disorderly houses or premises must come from property owners within a radius of 1000 feet of the premises of which complaint is made. Such complaints are to be made through the county attorney or the attorney general. This latter provision is already in the bill, but the new plan will restrict still more the initiative of citizens in starting action against premises which they assert are used for vicious purposes.

That this amendment would be acceptable to the citizens who have been backing the abatement bill was indicated by one of them, an attorney, this morning.

However, the point is made from another source that such an amendment must not be taken advantage of to allow the establishment of a restricted district on some remote piece of land, far from residences. In other words, the amendment must be operative as a check on perhaps unwarranted prosecution started by a citizen, but not take advantage of the establishment of a restricted "red-light" district.

To meet this point it is said that the present territorial laws making commercial vice a distinct offense will operate to stop such a course.

The Oahu senatorial committee was scheduled to hold a meeting some time this afternoon to discuss the new plan.

In view of this development, it has been decided, the Star-Bulletin is informed, to drop the idea of holding an executive session of the committee to hear from army officers, physicians and others who might have decided views to express.

Debate on the question was held for more than an hour yesterday afternoon following the adjournment of the regular senate meeting.

KEPT GERMAN ON THEIR SHIPS

Officers and men on two German steamers at Tutuila, Samoa, were kept close to their ships by order of Gov. J. M. Poyer when diplomatic relations were severed with Germany, according to advices received from there this morning.

The German steamers were in the harbor yesterday afternoon by the steamer ship Soana. Gov. Poyer issued the following order:

Instructions have been received to safeguard the interests and neutrality of the United States. It is hereby ordered:

The naval station is closed to all persons, except officials and employees. The public road through the station will remain open to pedestrians for the present. Horseback riders will dismount and lead their mounts while in the limits of the station. No visitors will be allowed in the power plant, shops or government buildings except on official business.

No person, except United States officials and employees, will be allowed to visit the radio station or to approach its neighborhood.

The officers and men of the German steamers Elsass and Solt will remain on board their vessels. If permission is desired to visit the shore, a written request to that effect will be submitted to the captain of the yard stating reasons and time desired. All communications to or from the ships will be at the customs wharf only. Permission for medical service, to receive or send stores or mail or to obtain fresh water will be first obtained and such arrangements as may be authorized will be made by the captain of the yard.

It is forbidden for all persons except officers and men of the naval service and government employees actually at work to go to the government wharf or to approach its vicinity. No boats will be allowed on the water of the bay between sunset and sunrise.

No persons except residents of the naval station will be permitted within the limits of the station between 10 p. m. and 6 a. m., without previous permission from the captain of the yard.

Any offender against this order will

Market Weak; Wheat Drops

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET TODAY

Following are the closing prices of stocks on the New York market today, sent by the Associated Press over the Federal Wiregram:

Stock	Today	Yesterday
Alaska Gold	75 1/2	75 1/2
American Smelter	100 1/2	100 1/2
American Sugar Ref.	111 1/2	111 1/2
American Tel. & Tel.	127 1/2	127 1/2
Anacostia Copper	85 1/2	85 1/2
Atchafalpa	101 1/2	101 1/2
Baldwin Loco.	82 1/2	82 1/2
Baltimore & Ohio	76 1/2	76 1/2
Bethlehem Steel, New	111 1/2	111 1/2
Calif. Petroleum	23 1/2	23 1/2
Canadian Pacific	163 1/2	163 1/2
C. & N. W. (St. Paul)	90 1/2	90 1/2
Colo. Fuel & Iron	47 1/2	47 1/2
Crucible Steel	65 1/2	65 1/2
Frie Common	26 1/2	26 1/2
General Electric	165 1/2	165 1/2
General Motors, New	120 1/2	120 1/2
Great Northern Pfd.	112 1/2	112 1/2
Inter. Harb. (St. Paul)	111 1/2	111 1/2
Kennecott Copper	44 1/2	44 1/2
Lehigh R. R.	68 1/2	68 1/2
New York Central	111 1/2	111 1/2
Pennsylvania	54 1/2	54 1/2
Ray Consol.	78 1/2	78 1/2
Reading Common	95 1/2	95 1/2
Rockwell	85 1/2	85 1/2
St. Paul	102 1/2	102 1/2
St. Paul & Northern Pfd.	111 1/2	111 1/2
Texas Oil	22 1/2	22 1/2
Union Pacific	111 1/2	111 1/2
U. S. Steel	110 1/2	110 1/2
Utah	111 1/2	111 1/2
Western Union	50 1/2	50 1/2
Wells Fargo	176 1/2	176 1/2
May Wheat	1.81 1/2	1.81 1/2

PIER PROBE AGAIN UP AT A HEARING

Harbor Board Gets Report of Inspection; New "Angles" in Situation Develop

A vigorous counter attack will be made to the verbal assault of Superintendent Forbes on the pier investigation commission of engineers is the report today in official circles.

Some time before the close of today a statement giving the opinion of the engineers as to the practicability of the alternative plan proposed by Charles R. Forbes for an exchange system on the new Pier 9, will be filed with the board of harbor commissioners.

"I am now preparing a statement which will be in the hands of the harbor board some time today," said Engineer Giles H. Gere, chairman of the investigating committee, on which are "himself, Carl H. Andrews and George W. Armistead," and which can be acted on when the board gets ready.

This morning Engineer Gere refused to comment on the Forbes' plan, saying the committee's complete opinion will be set forth in the statement to the harbor board.

Forbes' alternative plan differs widely from the recommendations made by the committee.

A meeting of the house public lands committee was scheduled for 2 o'clock. This committee is investigating the whole pier controversy, and Superintendent Forbes was to appear before it. It was expected today that the engineers' commission would also appear.

Ever since Forbes "roasted" the work of the commission at a harbor board meeting a few nights ago the air has been laden with rumors of impending battle.

RENOMINATION FOR CURTIS P. LAUKEA

(Special Star-Bulletin Cable)
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 14.—Curtis P. Laukea was renominated last Monday for secretary of the territory. C. S. ALBERT.

Mr. Laukea's nomination was sent in with a number of others for Hawaii appointments. It was not mentioned in the first despatch, whereupon the Star-Bulletin called its Washington correspondent asking if the reappointment had been made. As now shown, it went in with the others.

be at once arrested and delivered to the captain of the yard.

The captain of the yard is charged with the execution of the details necessary to enforce this order.

J. M. POYER,
Governor of American Samoa and
Commandant, U. S. Naval Station,
Tutuila.

SUGAR MEN ARE WARNED OF PRICE SLUMP AFTER WAR

Truman G. Palmer Sounds Note of Caution — Meanwhile Refiners Make Money Faster Than Ever

(Associated Press Service by Federal Wiregram)
CHICAGO, Ill., Mar. 14.—Truman G. Palmer, secretary of the United States Sugar Manufacturers' Association, at the annual meeting today told the members to prepare for a slump in prices when the war is over.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Mar. 14.—A huge increase in profits was reported today at the annual meeting of the American Sugar Refining Company. The profits from all operations are reported for 1916 as \$9,756,279, as against \$2,991,465 for 1915. The turnover approximated \$200,000,000, showing a manufacturing profit of about four and one-half per cent.

BILL INCREASES OAHU'S REVENUE

City Will Gain \$333,000 and Road Building Problem Be Less Puzzling

Oahu will have an additional \$333,000 in its general fund from tax returns next year if Representative C. H. Cooke's measure to amend various sections of the tax laws, introduced yesterday morning, becomes a law. The revenues of other counties from this source will increase accordingly.

Following out to a considerable extent the recommendations of the tax commission, Representative Cooke's measure provides that the allowance to counties from tax revenues shall increase from two-thirds of one per cent, the present rate, to a full one per cent, meaning that next year Oahu will have approximately \$333,000 more to spend.

"This certainly should provide funds for additional good roads," thinks Representative Cooke.

This measure, among other things, wipes out the leasehold assessment as being unconstitutional. The provisions for a revenue of one-sixth of one per cent for permanent improvements is also wiped out.

The bill provides that an annual tax of \$5 for the support of public schools shall be paid by every male resident of the territory between the ages of 20 and 60 years. This provision does away with the payment of the present poll and road tax, the three taxes being combined into one under the heading of support of schools. The school tax now is \$2.

It is provided that ministers, members of volunteer fire departments, officers and soldiers of the National Guard and officers and soldiers of the Naval Militia shall be exempt from the payment of personal taxes.

Organizations and institutions exempt from the payment of taxes on real and personal property include library associations and Y. M. C. A.'s and Y. W. C. A.'s which "are used exclusively for the moral, physical, intellectual and religious improvement of young men and women."

Kalalani'ia's home, the Salvation Army home in Manoa, the Palama Settlement and the Lanakila girls' home and other institutions are also exempt, the bill provides.

It is further provided that the tax appeal court shall sit each year in June.

PUUNUI AFTER IMPROVEMENTS

In an attempt to have part of the Puunui district paved a delegation from the improvement club visited George M. Collins, city and county engineer, this morning and discussed the situation. The section which they desire improved is from Rooke to Alewa and from the Country Club property to Wyllie and the extension of Liliha street. This district, if established, would be the same as the territory included in the project which called for Circle Drive as its mauka outlet with the exception that the outlet and Cherry Vale is left out.

The proposition, according to Collins, is only tentative and the delegation returned to Puunui to find out if the people would be willing to pay for the work.

This morning it developed that the petition filed at the meeting Tuesday evening in which \$1 per cent of the property owners on Alewa street requested that the board pave that street was misunderstood by a majority of the signers who thought it simply asked the board for temporary repairs.

The Baldwin Locomotive Works received orders for 71 new locomotives. Fifty are for export for the account of the Northern Railway of France.

On the eve of his marriage, James O'Brien, a fireman, was electrocuted by a feed wire while working on the top of a 30-foot pole at Paterson, N. J.

SEARCH REPORTED ON GERMAN SHIPS

House Public Lands Committee Calls Meeting; Rumor Counter for Forbes' Attack

Many angles are developing today in the "German ship situation"—the efforts of the harbor board to find some method of disposing of the German refugee steamers to protect both the local harbor and wharves and the vessels themselves.

A harbor board meeting was called by Chairman Forbes for 3:30 this afternoon, to get a report from the committee which searched the Pommer and Setos. The report was in written form this morning but Forbes refused to divulge its contents.

The committee searched the steamers to see if any explosives could be found, also to see what measures had been taken by the crews to sink the vessels in hurry-up cases if they were to be instructed to do so.

Yesterday there were reports that the statement by the committee today would deal with the condition of sea-cocks, valves, etc., but that no explosives had been found.

Rumor of Washington Action

The Star-Bulletin heard a report down town that Washington would take some action regarding the moving of the ships and that the harbor board would soon know definitely how far it can go in sending them outside or putting armed guards aboard. It was hinted the state department has taken the matter up again.

In the meantime there are renewals of the report that H. Hackfeld & Company, agents for the vessels, may decline to sign the proposed \$500,000 bond, which is supposed virtually to guarantee the "good conduct" of the German ships. In this connection the question of treaty rights comes up.

House Gets Board's Letter

Another "angle" developed today when the harbor board sent a letter to the house of representatives declaring that under present circumstances the ships had better stay at their piers.

On being asked by the Star-Bulletin this morning what the status of the ship sent to the local agency for the German steamers Tuesday morning now is, Vice-President George Rodick of H. Hackfeld & Company, Ltd., referred the reporter to the agency's attorneys, Thompson, Milverton & Cathcart.

"We received the bond form Tuesday morning," said Attorney Thompson at the firm's office, "and we will give Hackfeld & Company an opinion on it this afternoon or this evening. Treaty Rights Looked Up."

"Today we are running down some treaty rights and as soon as that is finished we will write our opinion and send it to the company."

It is understood that the "treaty rights" referred to by the attorneys are treaties between the United States and Germany which might render invalid certain vital portions of the bond form as now drawn up to protect the interests of the territory in case of war and a possible blowing-up or sinking of the vessels by their crews.

Harbormaster Capt. William R. Foster said this morning that he had turned in to Chairman Charles R. Forbes of the board of harbor commissioners a written report on the findings of the investigating committee, which he is chairman, and which searched the refugee German merchant steamers Pommer and Setos, the two vessels named in the \$500,000 indemnity bond, to see if any explosives were aboard or if any preparations had been made to scuttle them at their docks in the event of war with Germany.

Harbormaster Foster's report is accompanied by a supplementary report filed by Richard L. Leach, chief engineer of the Inter-Island steamer Mikahala, who served as the "competent mechanic" named in the motion, to assist the committee in its search.

That the German refugee ships had best be allowed to remain in Honolulu harbor, under a heavy bond as

BERNSTORFF SAYS EMBASSY NOT CENTER OF PLOTS

(Associated Press by Federal Wiregram)
LONDON, Eng., March 14.—It now develops that Germany did not intend any harm to the United States when she plotted to have Mexico fall upon the southern boundary line while Japan attacked us on the western coast. This is the gist of the statement which is credited to former Ambassador von Bernstorff on his arrival in Berlin yesterday.

The diplomat was given a cheerful welcome on his return to the German capital. He reported immediately to von Bethmann-Hollweg and Doctor Zimmermann, the chancellor and foreign minister, before making any statement.

Later he is credited with having asserted that Germany did not plan to make trouble in South America and that the reports that made his office in Washington the center of all manner of plots against the peace and neutrality of the United States are without foundation. He always acted correctly no matter what he did, he added.

After his formal statement he sent a communication to the Berliner Tageblatt, the semi-official organ of the government in Berlin, and again denied the charges that have been brought against him. In that article he says also that "if Germany sinks an American steamer it means war, but if a submarine sinks an Entente vessel with Americans on board that's quite different."

UTILITIES WILL MEET TOMORROW

At 1:30 tomorrow afternoon the public utilities commission will resume its general investigation of the Inter-Island Steam Navigation Company, Ltd. Further figures asked for by the commission concerning the company's business are scheduled to be produced.

Commissioner A. J. Gignoux and Secretary Henry P. O'Sullivan attended the inquest held this morning into the death of J. J. Devereaux, the Inter-Island engineer who died Tuesday from burns received when a gasoline torch with which he was working exploded. Secretary O'Sullivan took stenographic notes of the testimony.

Tuesday afternoon the commission investigated two accidents aboard Inter-Island steamers.

RAILROADS GATHER FORCES TO MEET NATIONAL STRIKE

Embargoes on Certain Kinds of Freight Declared to Prepare for Emergencies

(Associated Press by Federal Wiregram)
CHICAGO, Ill., Mar. 14.—Certain of the eastern railroads have notified the shippers on western lines of embargoes declared by the roads, due to the threats of a strike by the railway brotherhoods on next Saturday.

The lines which are declaring embargoes against certain kinds of freight in order to keep their rails clear for emergencies are the Big Four, the New York Central and the Baltimore & Ohio.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 14.—Yesterday's developments in the reported nationwide strike planned by the four brotherhoods of railroad men brought to light the fact that the general strike order has already been issued from the headquarters of the brotherhoods and that the strike is a certainty, planned to commence at 6 o'clock on the evening of Saturday, unless further orders are sent out countering the strike decree.

Information secured at Pittsburgh yesterday revealed the fact of the general strike order, copies being secured by the press. The order calls upon the train crews to strike "unless otherwise ordered," the crews to take their trains to the next terminal to be reached after 6 o'clock on Saturday evening or to tie up the traffic at some other point if travel to the next terminal is found too long a distance.

The trainmen are warned that there must be no violence.

BRITISH DOMINATE BAPAUME; CAPTURE ORVILLERS, HOLDING RIDGE COMMANDING GERMANS

Haig's Troops Ready to Smash Enemy's Positions and Take Big Strategic Center, Headquarters Reports

(Associated Press by Cable)
LONDON, Eng., March 14.—The American steamer Algonquin has been torpedoed by a German submarine. The crew was saved. No warning was given before the attack.

U. S. Consul Joseph G. Stevens reports that the sinking occurred at 6 o'clock in the morning of March 12. There were 10 Americans aboard, including the captain.

(Associated Press Service by Federal Wiregram)
LONDON, Eng., March 14.—According to advices from Plymouth later today, the German submarine first fired on the Algonquin at a distance of 4000 yards. Twenty shells were sent at the vessel.

The bombardment was not sufficient to sink the steamer, which was then boarded by men from the submarine, who placed bombs in her and blew her up.

The crew was given plenty of time to leave.

The Algonquin is owned by the American Star Line. She sailed from New York for London on February 20. She was recently transferred from British registry to the American flag.

BAPAUME AT MERCY OF HAIG'S MEN, SAY OFFICERS AFTER RIDGE CAPTURE

BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, March 14.—Staff correspondence from the very front, dated March 13, says: "The high ridge overlooking the town of Bapaume from the northwest, and regarded by the British as the 'promised land' in their struggle to dominate the situation, has now passed into the hands of Gen. Haig's troops."

The British now have the advantage of the highest ground from which they look down upon the famous German stronghold and a wide extent of the country beyond.

Officers believe now that they are in a position to take Bapaume itself when orders come for such action. Orvillers, a supporting point, was captured last night.

GERMANY CLAIMS ANCRE ATTACKS COSTLY

BERLIN, Germany, March 14.—The Teutons last night repulsed British attacks on the Ancre sector with heavy losses, says today's official statement.

On the east front, Russian mining operations were broken up in extensive German raids along the Narvovka river in Galicia, the Teutons capturing many prisoners and much material.

POPE MAY PROTEST AGAINST U-BOAT WAR

(Associated Press by Federal Wiregram)
PARIS, France, Mar. 14.—The pope has decided to make an important pronouncement regarding the war in the coming consistory, on March 22, according to a despatch from Rome. It is reported that the Vatican will protest against "unrestricted" naval warfare.

The German lines appear to be unable to withstand the volume of shell and high explosive which the British gunners are raining upon them and yesterday they broke again and for even greater gains than the British have as yet reported and over a wider front. Few details have been received here as yet of the fighting, but enough has come to show that it was exceedingly bloody on both sides. The Germans repulsed to the last the onrush of the attacking British infantry. The assault of the Allies was over a front a little more than three and one-half miles wide, and when the Teuton lines broke the rush of the British carried them more than a mile forward on the entire front.

It was late when the Germans began their retreat and the last reports from the battle field said that they were still falling back and that the British pursuit continued without check.

North of the Ancre river, where the fighting yesterday was also heavy, the British also forced their way through the entanglements that blocked their progress and recorded marked gains, pushing back the German lines for a distance—that is reported at about a mile. Northeast of Commequart, where the British are advancing the northern snipers that have been closing in upon Bapaume, they struck again heavily yesterday and drove the Germans back, with heavy losses.

The French reported yesterday that they are striking in the Champagne country, the key to the entire long salient that has for its apex the city of Noyon.

CHINA BREAKS WITH GERMANY FORMALLY

(Associated Press by Federal Wiregram)
WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 14.—Dr. Paul S. Reinsch, American minister to China, has cabled the secretary of state that China has formally severed diplomatic relations with Germany and the German minister in Peking has been handed his passports.

Edward Thierck pleaded guilty in the United States District Court to the embezzlement of \$20,000 in cash and securities from the National Shawmut Bank of Boston.

Governor Edge of New Jersey, appointed Alfred S. March of New Brunswick to succeed John T. French of Jersey City on the Board of Public Utility Commissioners.

DUCHESSE OF CONNAUGHT IS DANGEROUSLY ILL

(Associated Press by Federal Wiregram)
LONDON, England, Mar. 14.—The condition of the Duchess of Connaught today is reported on the official bulletin as "increasingly grave."

One man was killed and three others seriously hurt when struck by an auto truck while at work repairing the tracks of the New York Railways Co. at Avenue C and Eighth street, New York.

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BRITISH CANNON FIRE REPORTED IMMENSE

(Associated Press by Federal Wiregram)
NEW YORK, N. Y., March 14.—Bapaume is doomed and may fall today. Such is the belief of the military experts based upon the reports of fresh British successes in the tremendous attacks that are being carried forward upon the Ancre and Somme fronts by the Entente Allies now.

The German lines appear to be unable to withstand the volume of shell and high explosive which the British gunners are raining upon them and yesterday they broke again and for even greater gains than the British have as yet reported and over a wider front. Few details have been received here as yet of the fighting, but enough has come to show that it was exceedingly bloody on both sides. The Germans repulsed to the last the onrush of the attacking British infantry. The assault of the Allies was over a front a little more than three and one-half miles wide, and when the Teuton lines broke the rush of the British carried them more than a mile forward on the entire front.

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